The Bridge #12

Newsletter from the Canadian Forest Service, Pacific Forestry Centre

Spring 2004

Band perseveres to build woodworking skills

From adversity can come much good.

When the Neskonlith Indian Band planned their First Nations Forestry Program (FNFP) project in the spring of 2003, there was no way of knowing how future events would severely challenge project participants.

The band successfully applied for a $20,000 project focused on enhancing their woodworking skills. Next, the band arranged for the services of a University College of the Cariboo instructor with 40 years of woodworking experience to deliver a four-week introductory course to 10 band members.

Part way through the program, two generations of Elders were killed tragically in a vehicle accident, and three program participants lost relatives. The session was put on hold for two weeks, and one student was unable to carry on with his training.

The main Neskonlith community is on the South Thompson River just below Little Shuswap Lake, seven kilometers west of Chase, in an area hard hit by last summer's fires.

When the woodworking program resumed, another crisis – the August lightning strike at McGillivary Lake – resulted in a 2,000-hectare fire. Many band members were on evacuation alert. During the final week of the woodworking program two of the participants were evacuated to Kamloops.

But through commitment and hard work, participants completed the program, with an emphasis on safety.

"Safety training was our primary concern, especially with the table saw, router tables, shaper and the wood lathe," says Richard Manuel, Director and CEO, Neskonlith Development Corporation. "Special effort was given to personal protective gear and proper tool set-up."

Neskonlith woodworkers know their products

The first phase was a four-week intensive entry-level training program, devoted to shop safety and production. Participants also studied properties of wood, and concepts of local cultural value-added woodworking.

Band members felt initially that they had a fully functional shop in respect to tools and equipment, and their goal was to establish a fully functional custom cabinet/wood products shop.

"We didn't feel it was prudent or wise to make large capital investments until we first make investments in the human capacity," said Manuel. "It is our ultimate goal that our members be managers and supervisors, and not just laborers on a production line."

Working with a qualified instructor had added bonuses. The instructor is a fully qualified cabinet maker who is also owner-operator of his own business. He ensured the large stationary tools were tuned and functioning properly. During training, students picked up tips on maintaining that tuning, so essential to ongoing production operations.

As well, the instructor pointed out some changes the shop would have to make in order to be competitive, including switching from their original selection of a radial arm saw to a laser miter saw, to allow for exact repetitive production cutting.

"Our intent was not only to orient our members to operation and safety aspects of our new shop. An underlying important goal was to establish an initial product line," says Manuel.

A unique product line resulted. Manuel describes it as "raw products – jewelry boxes, drum cases, coffee and end tables, blanket boxes – which are blank canvases for Secwepemc cultural enhancements."

Prices for their products will range from $10 to $750. Custom orders are coming in, and band members raised their woodworking profile by participating in community forums and Christmas craft fairs.

Neskonlith woodworkers are also expanding their product list to include seasonal items such as lawn furniture, cedar planters, gazebos, and rustic living room, bedroom and office furniture.

"We heard over and over again that we would have no problem finding a product that will sell very well. Once the product line is identified, filling the orders will become the challenge in our little shop.

"Ultimately our plan has evolved to where we aren't planning products for mass production at this time. Our short-term goal remains building local human capacity," says Manuel. And that is already becoming a reality for the Neskonlith. Two graduates of the initial woodworking program last year have taken over instruction of basic carpentry classes at the band's Alternate School program.

Hope translates into big first steps for Penelakut forestry

When Lisa Shaver, Penelakut Tribe band manager, looks at the forest, she sees more than the trees. She sees a part of her people's natural heritage that could play an important role in her community's social and economic development.

Penelakut (translation: something buried) Tribe, part of the Coast Salish linguistic group, lives mostly on Kuper Island, 20 minutes by ferry from Chemainus. Accessible only by air and sea, the island is situated 60 kilometres north of Victoria, about five kilometres off Vancouver Island.

On a clear day, Kuper Island band members can stroll the beach and look all the way down Trincomali Channel to Saltspring Island. Penelakaut also reside on Tent Island, Galiano Island, and on Tussie Reserve near Crofton. About 560 Penelakut live across these island locations, with another 350 members located off-reserve.

Thanks to $25,000 from the First Nations Forestry Program (FNFP), the Penelakut are making a major move toward creating economic opportunities from forestry, while maintaining their traditional respect for the environment and its resources.

Forests offer First Nations employment opportunities

Shaver explains that the FNFP project enabled Penelakut Tribe to develop a forest community development plan, in partnership with Shelterwood Forest Management Ltd. in Courtney. She stresses that tapping into Shelterwood's professional forest management know-how was like unlocking a door.

"We would get inquiries about developing our forest resources, but it all sounded like a foreign language to me," Shaver recalls. "We needed to work with a Registered Professional Forester so we could understand this language. Then we could make a real beginning around planning what could be done, and what we needed to make it happen."

Some crucial elements were already in place. About a half-dozen members had forestry experience in logging and silviculture. Also, Penelakut Tribe owns a portable sawmill.

"The sawmill is a solid asset, and it will play a role in our forestry development plan, which in turn will support our community economic development plan," says Shaver. The Penelakut have utilized the sawmill for community projects before. For example, lumber for a school was cut using the tribe's sawmill.

Working with Shelterwood, the Penelakut began mapping out their forest management plan. Opportunities identified included using the sawmill to support a value-added lumber operation, developing harvesting and siliviculture on reserve land, acquiring a woodlot licence, developing forest fire suppression capacity, and exploring forest tenure opportunities with the provincial Ministry of Forests.

The plan called for organizing an initial training program for band members. Shaver says the training program, implemented in November of last year, proved a real success. She explains that a liaison officer worked with band members to inform interested persons about the training, and to get trainees registered. About 20 Penelakut expressed interest in the training, and a dozen took the intensive program, a five-day classroom experience covering how to set up and run a small business, plus information on basic silviculture, such as spacing, pruning, thinning and tree planting.

"The whole training session was very valuable and very well received," Shaver notes. "People are willing to participate."

She says about 10 band members are interested in getting further instruction, and she notes that fire suppression could be an activity where Penelakut could get employment off-reserve.

Shaver points out that the band also held a community meeting to serve as a workshop for increasing awareness of the value of reserve forests. She says the meeting was well attended, and that Penelakut Elders pointed out the possibility of developing non-timber forest products. For example, Penelakut currently harvest blackberries, which they market successfully in local communities.

"There are so many good ideas," she says. "First we needed a plan. Now we are building up our knowledge about forestry and opportunities. Next, we will need more training."

Shaver notes that people really want to see all the planning show some results.

"There's a lot of hope," she says. "We have a high rate of unemployment, but you know, a lot of people don't realize what is available to them. People have to see action being taken, or they get discouraged."

With a plan identifying forestry opportunities, individuals interested in pursuing those opportunities, and the support of their people and the FNFP, Penelakut Tribe is making a determined effort to strengthen their community through effective management of reserve forests.

Sawn lumber is a potential forest product for First Nations

Aboriginal forest company works as proud resource steward

Iisaak Forest Resources Ltd. is an innovative First Nations-led forest services company operating exclusively within Clayoquot Sound. In the Nuu-chah-nulth language, iisaak (pronounced *E-sock*) means "respect".

Iisaak, recipient of $25,000 First Nations Forestry Program (FNFP) funding last year for an employment and training project, is built on the philosophy of Hishuk-ish ts'awalk – respecting the limits of what is extracted and the interconnectedness of all things. It is a joint venture company formed between the development corporation of five First Nations of the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council and Weyerhaeuser Canada.

The company arose out of considerable pressures related to the environmental implications of harvesting timber in the Clayoquot Sound region in the early 1990s. Clayoquot Sound was the site of an intense stand off between environmentalists, First Nations people and forest companies.

For the First Nation partners, Iisaak represents an important opportunity to build capacity in the forest industry, employ band members, and eventually establish value-added manufacturing facilities. The company manages Tree Farm Licence (TFL) 57, 87,000 hectares of forest on the west coast of Vancouver Island.

Iisaak is remarkable because not only is it a majority owned First Nation company, but it involved the transfer of forest tenure to First Nations. It is a rare example of venture-based forest practices led by First Nations. They are proud stewards of their forests.

Iisaak's FNFP 2003 project focused on employing and training First Nations community members in field monitoring and assessment.

Cindy Verschoor, Iisaak's Special Projects Forester, said the $25,000 from FNFP partially funded their six-month project last year.

"We did hire five Nuu-chah-nulth First Nations from the local communities. One crew member is female, and we're very excited that she has enrolled in UBC Forestry this fall to further her training and education."

The project crew consisted of one field supervisor and four work members, and they were employed full-time with benefits for a total of 120 person-weeks.

In Iisaak's FNFP project, the focus was on training the crew to build the basic skills they would need as long term employees within the company. The crew was trained in First Aid, wildlife danger tree assessment, basic forest surveying techniques, stream identification, plant identification, culturally modified tree identification and ecological measurements, Verschoor said.

Specific ecological measurements the crew conducted included indicators of environmental health. First they set up grids within forested areas, and areas that have been harvested, and measured the diameter and length of downed wood within the grid, said

Forestry is important to British Columbia's coastal aboriginal communities

Verschoor. Next, they identified native plants and their relative cover, live trees and their relative cover, and the number of snags (standing dead or dying trees). These measurements allowed comparisons of key indicators of ecological health, pre- and post-harvest.

During the training process the crew was also given exposure to as many operational activities as possible, to help build the context for their work and its importance to the company's operations. Cross training also prepared the crew to work year-round, transitioning into other operational activities such as silviculture, engineering and cultural assessment once pre- and post-harvest monitoring activities have been completed. Iisaak aims to maintain these jobs, full-time and for the long-term.

Sound forest management plus good community relations equal success

When forest technician Rhonda Ned recently took Upper Nicola Band tribal Elders to see a work area near their reserve lands, they couldn't pick out what had been done – and that was a good thing.

"We went to a harvesting site, in a sensitive area, and the Elders said to me 'Where did you harvest?'" Ned says. "That was a good pat on the back for us, but for the Elders, it was also a great visual example, to see the work we're doing.

"They'll talk to their kinfolk, saying we did a great job up there. Absolutely that goes a long way to building trust."

Ned, an Upper Nicola Indian Band member who has lived half her life on-reserve, works closely with Gary Arnold, the band's Woodlands Manager. Last year, the band used First Nations Forestry Program

Community-based planning helps First Nations practise sound forest management

(FNFP) funding of $25,000 to help build a community-based sustainable forestry plan.

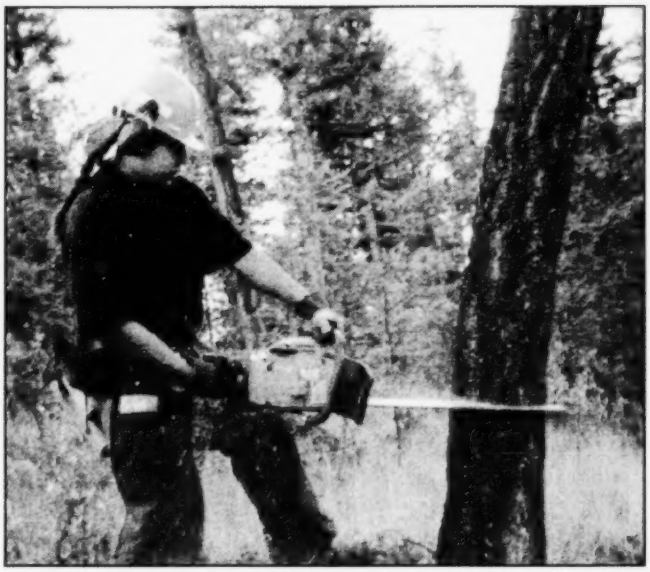
Upper Nicola lands are located near Douglas Lake, about 35 kilometers east of Merritt and 70 km south of Kamloops. About 60 percent of the approximately 830 band members live on 30,000 acres of reserve land, in areas of rolling hills, lakes and rich grasslands home to deer, moose, eagles, black bears, and coyotes.

But looking deeper beyond the beauty, like so many others in the province, the Upper Nicola band is doing battle – against the Mountain Pine Beetle. Last year's work, funded with $56,400 from the Mountain Pine Beetle Initiative, was carried out 100 per cent by First Nations workers.

"The Mountain Pine Beetle in our area is dramatic. It could take over 40 percent of our treed volume," Arnold says. "We don't feel like we'll win the battle. But because of the work we've done, we know where the battlefield is and the extent, which is widespread – all four corners of our area."

Arnold cites estimates that for every one tree infected by the beetle this year, five will be infected next year. But in the Upper Nicola area, that estimate would be six to nine trees infected.

And that battle takes Arnold back to management planning. "While we'd like to win the battle against



Many British Columbia First Nations strive to build a sustainable forestry capacity

the beetle, our goal is to minimize the effect, using the best management we can put together."

Management planning has generated much training that has resulted in a band experienced and ready to take on even bigger challenges, Arnold says. As an example, he notes the launch next year of the Upper Nicola Forest Corporation, a "full-phase, total forest management company. It will include GIS mapping and a full time Registered Professional Forester.

"Now we can help with the mentoring of other bands," Arnold says. "Through our corporation, we'll work with other First Nation communities to develop *their* own capacity. Our neighbors now can look to us as a neighbor with something to offer – an educated workforce putting knowledge to work on the ground."

That knowledge comes as a result of much training taken by band members, including certification in Mountain Pine Beetle recognition, hand-held GPS, root-rot, wildlife management, wildfire danger tree assessment, falling and re-generation surveys.

"Any gains we can make locally are multiplied 10 times when you start training within your own community. And the natural next step is to work outside, with others. But if it wasn't for these funds, we wouldn't have the capacity being developed," Arnold explains.

Developing that capacity has one other cornerstone, he points out – "communicating well with the community. Looking back, we did that later rather than sooner, and we had to take a step back, go back to the community and explain better what we were doing.

"If you don't have that community understanding, it's not a community-driven project, and it won't be a long-term sustainable project. And if Elders don't understand what you're doing and what you're saying, they just rely on the trust of people they hire.

"But the people they hire *need* the Elders' input, to make it a full community-driven project," Arnold emphasizes.

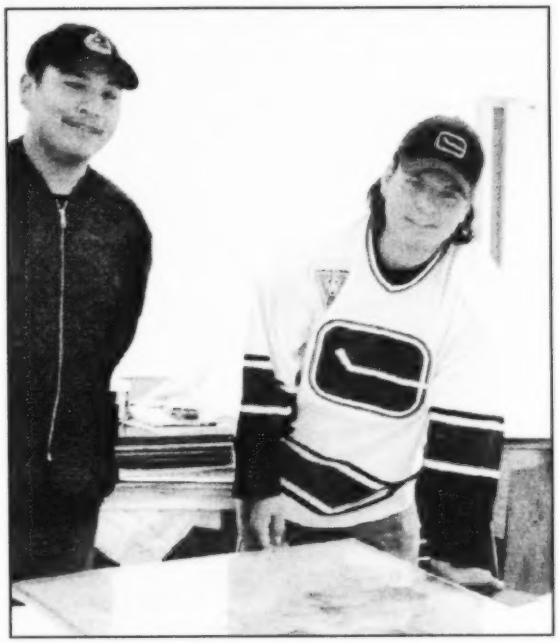
Involving Rhonda Ned as his assistant was a key that opened the door to that full understanding, he says. "People have always done what we foresters call 'selective harvesting'. But they described what they have always done in a much more straightforward way, for example: 'Taking out the trees that cause shade, because the berries can't grow in the shade.'

"Rhonda would 'translate' for me, to the community, into much plainer language," Arnold says with a laugh.

"We are a good team," says Ned. "Gary gets going pretty good in his forestry language, and I just say 'stop'. And then I turn to people and say 'this is what he's saying'. It's about building trust through communicating, and our membership is very interested in this, because it is right in our backyard."

But Ned adds that she has a deeply personal reason for what she does too. "I want my kids to see the forests that I was lucky enough to grow up with, and for them to know what it takes to keep it that way."

Band battles beetles' buddies, too



Clayton Harry and Pat Harry plan for pests

Mountain pine beetle might be in the spotlight right now, but other forest pests are still getting in on the action.

The Canoe Creek Indian Band's reserve land is in the middle of the mountain pine beetle attack in south-central Cariboo.

They are also suffering from attacks of Douglas-fir beetle and western spruce budworm.

"Because of the mountain pine beetle outbreaks, it has been difficult to deal with the fir beetle," says Sam Phillips, Community Forester for Canoe Creek Indian Band. "It's just not a hot topic right now, while so much resources and effort are going towards the pine beetle.

"But for the band, the fir beetle is important because of the heavy concentrations of fir stands in the band's area," Phillips notes.

On Canoe Creek lands, almost all stands other than mountain pine beetle-infested lodgepole pine, are being attacked by these two other pests.

With First Nations Forestry Program (FNFP) funding of $24,825, the band undertook a project to manage Douglas-fir beetle and western spruce budworm on Indian Reserve (IR) land. The area is approximately 140 km southwest of Williams Lake, in a semi-remote area of the B.C. Interior.

Phillips says the FNFP project focused primarily on the Douglas-fir beetle. "They have about 3,077 hectares currently forested. The fir stands making up the majority of the forested land are moderate to extreme hazard for Douglas-fir beetle and western spruce budworm attack.

"Forest health risks are always out there. It's just a matter of managing for them when there's an outbreak. We want to have a management plan in place."

Phillips says concentrated pockets of fir beetle were found and the intent is to deal with them before they get even worse.

Canoe Creek members worked closely with Riverside Forest Products Ltd. and Lignum Ltd. on this project for several reasons.

Both companies, supportive through contributing funds and in-kind training, are actively managing provincial forests surrounding Canoe Creek IR lands, and so they have an interest in controlling the spread of forest pests too.

As well, both companies employ band members in silviculture operations, fall and burn, and salvage logging. Development of Douglas-fir beetle and western spruce budworm expertise within the Canoe Creek band would benefit all parties.

About 65 percent of the band's 5,554 hectares is rocky hillside. "It's a real challenge trying to control the beetle in some of those areas," says Phillips. "We are currently trying to control an epidemic population on approximately 200 hectares of very steep slopes."

A trap tree program is in place for some areas surrounding IR lands. The majority of the fir attack is on areas inaccessible for treatment, so provincial forest trap trees will be set to draw beetles from IR land. Trap trees and funnel traps will also provide information about the population and extent of attacking insects, as well as producing data to aid in future planning.

The band, along with the regional entomologist, is exploring things such as anti-aggregates for next year, to deter beetles from attacking the fir stands.

Phillips points out that in addition to the development of a management plan specific to the Douglas-fir beetle and secondarily to the western spruce budworm, the FNFP project assessed the risk of further attack, and started developing future action plans.

The program will also help band members build skills, and generate more opportunities for contracts with licensees and the Ministry of Forests.

Phillips notes that pest management is just one of many activities that the community is implementing on its IR lands to promote better forest management for many years to come.

"Unfortunately, bugs don't work on a fiscal year," he adds wryly.

Organization fills need for forestry expertise

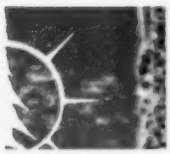
WANTED: A knowledgeable professional, willing to assist First Nations forestry-related business. Must have decades of real experience. Must be willing to completely volunteer their time.

Sounds like an impossible dream, searching for such an individual.

But finding such highly qualified people, right here in B.C., can be as easy as contacting CESO (Canadian Executive Service Organization) Aboriginal Services.

"B.C. bands could really use CESO's services more extensively, considering the scope of assistance and economic development opportunities we offer. We're

CESO professionals help First Nations clients sustain business and increase employment opportunities.



hoping bands will be drawn to that," says Arnold Adolph, Regional Manager for the B.C./Yukon Region.

CESO Volunteer Advisers work in partnership with First Nation clients to help create and sustain aboriginal businesses and increase employment opportunities.

"We have 39 professionals in our roster here in B.C. that have experience specifically in relation to forestry," Adolph says. "They come from both the private and public sector. What they all have in common is that they're senior people, and very, very experienced."

CESO is a not-for-profit agency that matches retired or semi-retired advisors with businesses, organizations, communities and individuals.

Adolph, a member of the Lillooet band recently hired by CESO Aboriginal Services, says his organization recently assisted a B.C. band that owns a lumber mill. A CESO advisor worked with the band to improve operational efficiencies, by closely looking at the operations of the mill and yard maintenance. As well, they received a bit of expert advice on marketing of their final product.

"As another example, I could see our volunteer advisers being very helpful to bands that have recently been awarded timber licenses. If they have never done the management side of the harvesting, they should really think about getting CESO involved. We have people who could definitely help on things like that."

The amount of money a band saves on fees by utilizing the assistance of a volunteer senior consultant could be substantial.

However the band pays for costs such as the adviser's travel, lodging and meals, workshop materials and a minimal administration fee.

Costs for travel to more remote communities can deter some bands from participating, Adolph acknowledges, but notes that much assistance can be done over the phone, and they are "intrigued" by the possibilities of on-line mentoring.

A number of bands have one dedicated volunteer adviser, who will spend time speaking or working with them over the long term.

"We're talking about forestry-specific things here, but our primary focus is wider – our focus is economic development. We have a lot of specialists in marketing, and also in value-added components."

Adolph says the volunteer adviser concept is a very good fit with First Nations cultures, pointing to a related section on their website, which notes:

"Among First Nations our Volunteers would be called 'Elders'; their wisdom and knowledge essential to sound decision-making. To the rest of Canada, they are 'senior citizens'. To our clients, they light the path to the future success and well-being of Canada's First Peoples."

And Adolph adds that bands advertising for assistance shouldn't be too surprised if they get a call from him. "I just know that we offer such a good value to bands looking for services, it's just a matter of helping people know more about us."

Adolph encourages anyone with questions to call him toll-free at 1-800-986-4566, or e-mail him at aadolph@ceso-saco.com. Their website is www.cesobc.ca.

Examples of Where CESO Volunteer Advisers Help

Starting or Expanding a Business
- Feasibility studies and business plans
- Funding applications
- Review of acquisitions
- Loan applications

Project and Financial Analysis
- Financial diagnosis
- Sales and marketing assistance
- Strategic and organization review
- Technical operations assistance

Board of Directors Training
- Development of by-laws
- Roles and responsibilities of directors
- Conducting effective meetings

New player joins FNFP team

Canadian Forest Service's First Nations Forestry Program (FNFP) in British Columbia has some spring news. Anne Dickinson took over the reins as Project Coordinator for the program on April 5.

Anne succeeds Art Shortreid, who for over eight years worked as FNFP Project Officer.

Dickinson brings a wealth of forestry and public sector experience to the position. After 20 years working for the federal government at Parks Canada and the Canadian Forest Service, she can draw on significant experience developing partnership agreements and plugging communities into programs.

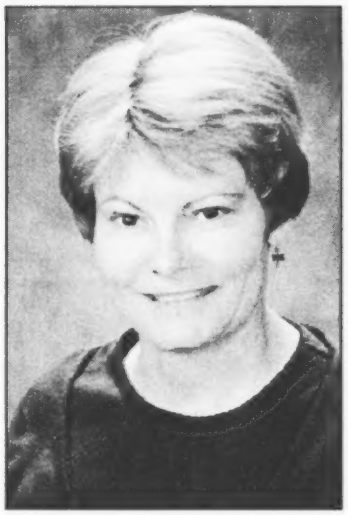
"I'm excited about helping people," she says. "Right now I'm busy learning about the program, and I really appreciate everyone's patience during this time of transition."

Dickinson will be assisting clients and prospective clients to participate in FNFP. Also, she will help evaluate funding applications.

"I'm really impressed with the quality of the applications this year. I hope over the coming months I can get out to some of the communities, meet people involved in the program, and learn about their issues," she explains.

Dickinson studied at UBC, where she graduated with an M.Sc. in forest ecology. She has worked for the last seven years at Pacific Forestry Centre.

For persons interested in contacting Dickinson, her phone number is 250-363-6002 and email **adickins@nrcan.gc.ca**.



New FNFP Project Coordinator Anne Dickinson

Shortreid will still help out with FNFP this spring, but he has a new role at Pacific Forestry Centre. He is now Forestry Officer with the Forest 2020 Green Cover Plantation Demonstration and Assessment Program.

"We will establish 1,200 hectares of fast-growing trees of various species in various locations across British Columbia to demonstrate viability for carbon sequestration and economics for landowners," he explains.

Reflecting fondly on his years with FNFP, Shortreid notes that he started with the program from its inception in 1996. He says after eight years plus, it was time for a change, but he adds he can look back with satisfaction after seeing some real progress.

"A good number of projects made a difference, helping communities to move ahead in some way," says Shortreid. "FNFP, driven by First Nations individuals and community needs, has helped get native companies up and running, and has built a lot of good relations between First Nations and non-natives in the forest sector."

First Nations Forestry Program Project List

(2004/05 Fiscal Year)

Proponent	Community	Project Title	Board Approved
An Dsap Wilp Society	Prince George	Forest Licence Management, Planning and Inventory Update	$25,000
Beecher Bay First Nation	Sooke	Silivculture and Stand Rehabilitation	$25,000
Bonaparte Indian Band	Cache Creek	Business Planning and Application to Harvest Infested Wood	$20,000
Bridge River Indian Band	Lillooet	Sustainable Resource Management Plan	$25,000
Cayoose Creek Band	Lillooet	Management Plan Update	$25,000
Cheslatta Carrier Nation	Burns Lake	Nechako Reservoir Submerged Timber Research and Marketing Project	$25,000
Da'Naxda'xw/Awaetlala Nation	Alert Bay	Feasibility and Marketing Study for Non-timber Forest Products	$25,000
Gingolx Village Government	Gingolx	Economic Diversification Through Value-added Products	$25,000
Gitga'at Development Corporation	Hartley Bay	Forest Stewardship Plan	$25,000
Haida Tribal Society	Old Masset	Haida Forestry Strategic and Operating Plan	$25,000
Heiltsuk Tribal Council	Bella Bella	Forest Licence Proposal Preparation	$25,000
High Bar First Nation	Clinton	Wood Remanufacturing Opportunity Assessment	$25,000
Kamloops Indian Band	Kamloops	Woodlot Development Activities	$24,900
Ktunaxa Lands and Resources Agency – Research and Planning Department, Ktunaxa Kinbasket Treaty Council	Cranbrook	Exploring Non-timber Forest Product Opportunities	$25,000
Kwantlen First Nation	Fort Langley	Kwantlen Forestry Project	$24,800
Matsqui First Nation	Matsqui	Matsqui First Nation Bigleaf Maple Pilot Project	$25,000
Metlakatla Development Corporation	Prince Rupert	Timber Permit Preparation	$25,000

First Nations Forestry Program Project List

(2004/05 Fiscal Year — continued)

Proponent	Community	Project Title	Board Approved
Nedo'ats Band	Granisle	Forest-based Enhancement and Management	$24,000
Nee Tahi Buhn Indian Band	Burns Lake	Woodlot Five-Year Plan	$18,779
Seabird Island Band	Agassiz	Seabird Island Forestry Project	$24,702
Sechelt Indian Band	Sechelt	Tenure Acquisition Strategy	$25,000
Shackan Indian Band	Lower Nicola	Forestry Planning and Development	$25,000
Siska Indian Band	Lytton	Siska Traditions Projects Product Development and Marketing	$25,000
Skawahlook First Nation	Agassiz	Sustainable Forest-based Business Development	$25,000
Skway First Nation	Chilliwack	Increased Project Efficiency	$24,562
Snaw-Naw-As First Nation	Lantzville	Woodlot Licence	$24,000
Squamish Nation	Squamish	Special Forest Products Development	$25,000
Stekyoodenview Contracting	New Hazelton	Forestry Skill Enhancement	$24,942
Tit'q'et Administration	Lillooet	Lillooet Community Forest Application Development	$18,424
Tobacco Plains Indian Band	Grasmere	Sawmill Feasibility Study and Business Plan	$10,490
Toosey Indian Band	Riske Creek	Forest Licence Proposal	$25,000
Ulkatcho First Nation	Anahim Lake	Fire Readiness Planning	$24,700
Upper Nicola Band	Merritt	Forestry Management Proposal	$25,000.

The Bridge, published by the Canadian Forest Service, is a newsletter of Natural Resources Canada's First Nations Element of the Mountain Pine Beetle Initiative, and of the British Columbia First Nations Forestry Program - a partnership between Natural Resources Canada and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

For more information contact the Pacific Forestry Centre at 506 W. Burnside Rd. Victoria BC V8Z 1M5, (250) 363-0600, or on the web at pfc.cfs.nrcan.gc.ca

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